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EXAMINER

VO, TED T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2122

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/975,681

Applicant(s)

HALEY ET AL.

Examiner

Ted T. Vo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 October 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 14, 15 and 17-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 13 and 16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed on 10/20/2004 responsive to the Office action dated, 08/02/04.

Claims 1-19 are amended.

In view of the amendment in responsive to the prior objections to the abstract and the specification, these objections are withdrawn.

Within this detailed action,

Claim 14 stands finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Detailed action is presented in this Office action.

Claims 1-12, and 15, 17-19 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Detailed action is presented in this Office action.

Claims 13 and 16 are objected to. Details are in Allowable subject matter section below.

Because the amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action, accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicants' arguments in the Remarks section filed on 10/20/2004 have been fully considered.

With regards to Claim 1, associating with newly amended limitations, *"individually selectable from a plurality of different types of predetermined data items available for incorporation in an expression"*,

Applicants contend that:

(i) Nielsen does not teach this newly added limitation (Remarks, page 10, the last paragraph).

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Examiner respectfully disagrees. Nielsen's reference remains covering this limitation. See Figure 2 that shows a *plurality of different types of predetermined data items* "Good Boy", "Good Girl", and "Bad Dog". Item 265 provides a user with selectable predetermined library data "Good Boy", "Good Girl", and "Bad Dog". The data is **predetermined by a user**. Like the open text area in Applicant's FIG. 7, expressions are also entered by a user. These data items are predetermined in directories such as Personal Library 1, Personal Library 2, and so on. Like the Applicants FIG. 7, if user enters the incorrect data, results would come up empty. The showings in Nielsen's Figure 2 are not different from the DATA Items and the "EXPRESSION" shown in the Applicants' FIG. 7. Nielsen's Figure 4, and the expression query in item 270: ("Good Boy" OR "Good Girl") BUT NOT (Bad Dog)), show such "*data items available for incorporation in an expression*".

(ii) Applicants repeat the same argument to the newly added limitation above in page 11 (remarks: page 11, second paragraph) where Applicants argue that "items 200 are fields allow user entry of search text", "items 270 shows created search expression", "items 260 allows a user to select a source to be searched and item 265 is search activation button". Based on these items associated with their displays, Applicants argue that they are NOT "predetermined data items available for incorporation".

Examiner respectfully responds: It would be referred to the Applicants' specification, FIG 7, where "predetermined data items" show in a folder-directory-type such as PATIENT, ADDRESS, etc., and the "incorporation" is simply the "text entry area" EXPRESSION NAME in that a user can enter with an expression. The "text entry area" is clearly used by the user to enter with text-based operations. Like Nielsen's Figure 2, a user can enter whatever. The expression shown in the Applicants' FIG. 7 could be a combination of PATIENT, ADDRESS, and Operators such AND, OR, > <, +, -, etc. In this same manner, Nielsen shows its SYSTEM LIBRARY with predetermined library such as Personal library 1, Personal library 2, and the user could go further to the directories in WWW in Internet, and so on. As shown in Nielsen's Figure 4, the data items within text-windows in Figure 2 incorporate together. The items 200, 260 are simply an exemplary concept of a window user interface that can be dynamically changed by code's rearrangements such as Applets (Nielsen details in page 4-5), FORMs in HTML (Nielsen's

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discussion page 4, lines 25-26). These mechanisms run in the window background to give the image of Figure 2. Descriptions in pages 4-5, and Figure 4, show such an incorporation of items 460, 470, 480 given in Figure 4. It should be noted that, the showings "GOOD BOY" "GOOD GIRL" entered in the window 200 of the reference are similarly to PATIENT, AGE, etc, entered in the "EXPRESSION" in the Applicants' FIG. 7. It is because all these data items are **allowed** and entered by **USERS** via text windows. The terms, "Good Boy", "Good Girl", and "Bad Dog", are type-predetermined by a user because the user knows it would be in the library directory. These terms have the similar types like AGE, SEX in the Applicants' FIG.7. Yes, Nielsen's operators like AND, OR, BUT NOT, direct toward a search mechanism. These operators are parts of nature operators such as Arithmetic, Logical, or String operators. An extension of these types of operators has been used in the art, or used within Neilson would allow the all types of data including numbers to enter in the text windows 200, and thus would allow Java, JavaScript, Applets, Stand-alone Applications (Nielsen: page 4, lines 30-56, and page 5, lines 1-37) to scan and to calculate in accordance to the elements entered by the user. The operations shown in Figure 2 incorporated with and Nielsen discussion shown in pages 4-6 show "items 200", "items 270", "items 260", and "item 265" perform the functionality similarly to the entry in the text-open areas shown in Applicants' FIG.7.

(iii) Within the arguments of Claim 1, Applicants assert that their claimed system enables "use of a customizable expression" to allow a user to define formulas for calculating rates of reimbursement" (Remarks: page 11, last paragraph).

Examiner responds: Claim 1 does not show anything related to "*define formulas for calculating rates of reimbursement*". Moreover, any "open-text area" like in Applicants' FIG.7 or Nielsen's Figure 2 would allow a user to enter his/her customize formulas.

Regarding independent Claims 17 and 19, where Applicants consider the Claims' limitations are corresponding in connection with Claim 1 (Remarks, pages 15, lines 3-4, and 12-13). Therefore, all the Examiner's response would be connected to the same reason as addressed above to the Claim 1.

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Regarding the arguments of newly added limitations, "Used for calculating a result value" in Claim 1, and so as in Claims 17, 19. The arguments to this limitation have been fully considered, but moot in view of new ground of rejection presented in this Office action.

Regarding the arguments of Claims 14-16 as given in Remarks, page 15-17. The amendment of Claims 14-15 presented herein this Office action necessitates new ground of rejection. All the arguments regarding to Claims 14-15 are moot because of new ground of rejection presented in this Office action.

Regarding the arguments of Claims 2-12, 18 (Remarks: pages 12-15). All of these claims amended with newly added limitations that also necessitated new ground of rejection. The arguments to these Claims have been considered, but moot in view of new ground(s) of rejection presented in this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nielsen et al (EP 0 851 368 A2) (hereinafter: Nielsen).

As per Claim 14: Nielsen discloses, "*A system for providing a user interface display image supporting user entry of an expression for use in deriving information associated with a patient, comprising: a user interface menu generator for providing a displayable image including,*

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a first image window listing a plurality of selectable data items (See Figure 2, item 265, and its exemplary layout in Figure 4, item 470) individually selectable from a plurality of different types of predetermined data items (See Figure 4, item 470, and associated text, where elements in item 470 such as "GOOD BOY", "GOOD GIRL" are predetermined and selected by a user who enters these into the window item 200) available for incorporation in an expression,

said plurality of different types of predetermined data items comprise predetermined data items and associated predetermined allowable values (GOOD BOY, GOOD GIRL, etc., or whatever entered in the text window items 200) for corresponding predetermined data item (See Figure 2, item 270, and Figure 4: corresponding),

an image prompt element permitting user entry of said expression and for incorporating a data item in said expression from said listed data items to provide a resultant expression (See Figure 2: ("Good Boy" OR "Good Girl") BUT NOT (Bad Dog)) in response to user selection of said data item in said first image window (Figure 2, Items 200, 270: image prompt element), and
an icon for initiating storing of said resultant expression (Figure 2, reference number 275); and
an expression processor for resolving said resultant expression to provide a result in response to user command (Figure 2, reference numbers 280, 281, etc.)."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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6. Claims 1-12, 15, 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nielsen et al (EP 0 851 368 A2), in view of Netscape Communications Corporation, "JavaScript Guide", 1997 (hereinafter: Netscape).

Given the broadest reasonable interpretation of followed claims in light of the specification.

As per Claim 1:

Nielsen discloses displaying images in a user interface used in a computer window of a computer in which it is provided pull-down windows incorporated with search mechanism to connected to its determined directory/data ("Personal Library") or to World Wide Web. In the user interface, it provides multiple pull-down menu windows to display menus for selectable operators, data, and results such as shown in Figure 2, and Nielsen covers limitations,

user interface menu generator for providing a displayable image (all elements in the pull-down windows such as items 210 or 260, or item 200) including

a first image window listing a plurality of data items (See Figure 2, item 265, and its exemplary layout in Figure 4, item 470) individually selectable from a plurality of different types of predetermined data items (See Figure 4, item 470, and associated text) available for incorporation in an expression (See Figure 2, item 270: ("Good Boy" OR "Good Girl") BUT NOT (Bad Dog)), used for calculating a result value,

an image prompt element for permitting user entry of said expression and for incorporating a data item in an entered expression from said listed data items to provide a resultant expression (Figure 2, reference numbers 200, 270) used for calculating a result value in response to user selection of said data item in said first image window, and

an icon for initiating storing of said resultant expression (Figure 2, item 275); and

an expression processor (Page 4, lines 42-44: 'Applets') for processing said resultant expression to provide a calculated result value in response to user command (Figure 2, reference numbers 280, 281, etc.).

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Nielsen does not explicitly disclose, "*an expression used for calculating a result value*"

However, the selectable operators is shown as AND, OR, BUT NOT, and "...." (Nielsen: Figure 4, item 460) that would not explicitly cover the limitation "used for calculating a result value".

Netscape disclose a full set of OPERATORS such as AND, OR, etc., (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 33, Table 9.4) including algebraic operators (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 31, Table 9.1) provided for calculating result values (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 30, see section EXPRESSIONS, second paragraph). The Netscape shows its has built-in operators as element availability of window program application. Moreover, Nielsen suggests an extension of available operators (Nielsen: Figure 4, items 470, referring "... operators).

Therefore, It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to extend the displayed set of operators operable within Applets and HTML developed for window interface shown by Nielsen into full sets of Operators shown by Netscape. The motivation is that these operators are available as the embedded and/or built-in elements in a computer operating system and/or in a programming language; users can directly enter arithmetic expression in the input text without using online or hand calculators, and thus the user can enhance search process, where the calculated values simply result in such arithmetic built-in operations of a computer such as add/subtract/multiplication/</>/, etc.

As per Claims 17, and 19:

Claim recites the limitations that perform the functionality corresponding to the functionality as recited by limitations of Claim 1. Claims 17 and 19 have the rejection in the same reason as set forth in conning to the rejection of Claim 1.

As per Claim 2: Regarding further limitation,

Nielsen discloses, "*A system according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of different types of predetermined data items comprise predetermined data items and associated predetermined allowable values* (GOOD BOY, GOOD GIRLD, etc., or whatever entered in the

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text window items 200) for corresponding predetermined data item (See Figure 2, item 270, and Figure 4: *corresponding*) and

said data item is incorporated in said expression together with an operator comprising at least one of, (a) a logical operator (See AND, OR, BUT NOT, and "...." in Figure 4) and (b) an algebraic operator to provide resultant expression.

Nielsen does not explicitly disclose "(b) an algebraic operator to provide resultant expression",

Netscape disclose a full set of OPERATORS including algebraic operators (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 31, Table 9.1) incorporating in window applications, provided for calculating result values (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 30, see section EXPRESSIONS, second paragraph). It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include all the algebraic operators as given by Netscape because these operators are available and provided in any window applications, and thus extend further search/calculation functionality.

As per Claim 3: Neilson further discloses the limitation of claim 3.

Regarding further limitation, *where in said plurality of different types of predetermined data items comprises at least one of (a) a patient identifier, (b) a medical condition identifier, (c) a patent address and (d) patient medical record information.*

This claim specifies, "*predetermined data items comprises*" as listing the non-functional descriptive data elements, "*(a) a patient identifier, (b) a medical condition identifier, (c) a patent address and (d) patient medical record information*". Particularly, these data elements are the information/data in a library related to medical records. These descriptive materials/data elements in the limitations does not perform a function, and thus will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art of Nielsen in the terms "Good Boy", "Good Girl", "Personal Library 1", "Personal Library 2", etc. Because "Personal Library" (Figure 2) is a storage directory see commonly in a computer. It would contain all types of data. Therefore, Neilson's "System Library" which is a top hierarchy of "Personal Library 1", "Personal Library 2", "....", in Figure 4; or "WWW" (Nielsen: page 2, lines 25-30) reads this limitation. (See *In re Gulack*, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031

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(Fed. Cir. 1994) - Descriptive materials will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of patentability).

As per Claim 4: Nielsen further discloses, *A system according to claim 1, wherein predetermined data items are individually selectable by selection of displayed elements in a hierarchy tree structure, said displayed elements representing predetermined data items* (See "System Library" which is a top hierarchy of "Personal Library 1", "Personal Library 2", "...", in Figure 4. User can enter or predetermined items in window item 200, or 270, and also see in page 6, lines 10-15, "User may create one ore more subset [hierarchical structure] of the system library". System library is a common directory; it is seen in a common window like Microsoft Window 95, containing a hierarchy system of files/types).

As per Claim 5: Nielsen further discloses,

"A system according to claim 1, wherein said expression processor initiates generation of a displayed notification to a user indicating said entered expression is invalid and said expression processor initiates generation of a display notification to a user indicating said enter expression is invalid (See page 2, line 22, "query syntax", and see Figure 9, and further see page 4, lines 42-55, "an applet to compute the proper search syntax", "CONTENT HANDLER", see "Java Interpreter" in page 5, line 10, see "specifying the correct search syntax" in page 5, line 30, all these have means of handling *invalid expression*).

As per Claim 6: Nielsen further discloses,

"A system according to claim 1, wherein said displayable image includes an icon for initiating verification an entered expression is valid." (See page 6, lines 35-36, "A plurality of button 280-284 are displayed across the bottom of graphical user interface. These permit or invoke functionality useful or desirable in carrying out a search": teaching inherently *"includes an icon"* and *"entered expression is valid"*. For example a query syntax included with an incorrectly operator entered by a user would inherently detected by parsing when one of these button 'icon' is clicked.) *and said verification includes a syntax check of said enter calculable expression* (See page 2, line 22, "query syntax", and see Figure 9, and further see page 4, lines 42-55, 'an applet to compute the proper search syntax as the user manipulates the GUI form', "CONTENT HANDLER", see "Java Interpreter" in page 5, line 10, see "specifying the correct search syntax" in page 5, line 30, all these have means of handling *invalid expression*).

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As per Claim 7: In further view of Claim 7 limitations,

Nielsen discloses applets in page 4, lines 42-55, that compute the expression entered by a user in the Figure 2 to cover *"wherein said expression processor resolves said resultant expression to provide a result"*

Nielsen does not disclose, *"comprising a financial reimbursement sum determined by health care policy terms"*.

Netscape discloses a full set of OPERATORS such as AND, OR, etc., (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 33, Table 9.4) including algebraic operators (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 31, Table 9.1) provided for calculating result values for any formula entered in a particular text window like the item 200 of Neilson, where if the formula direct to a health care financial calculation would result *reimbursement sum*.

It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to enter *reimbursement sum* formula in the window of Nielsen to extent to the operators provided by Netscape, thus it results a desired *financial reimbursement sum*.

As per Claim 8: Nielsen further discloses,

"A system according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of different types of predetermined data items include miscellaneous values comprising predetermined specific words (Referring terms "Good Boy", "Good Girl", "Bad Dog", "Personal Library 1", "Personal Library 2", etc.)."

As per Claim 9: Nielsen further discloses,

"A system according to claim 1, wherein displayable image (Figure 2) includes an image prompt element supporting user entry of a name for identifying a resulting expression (Figure 2, item 270, 275) and said user interface menu generator provides an image window permitting user selection of a template calculable expression from a plurality of predetermined template expressions." (See Figure 2, item 275, a pull down menu, and see page 6, lines 28-34).

(Examiner note: the expression such as '("Good Boy" OR "Good Girl") BUT NOT (Bad Dog)' ' in item 270 is also a calculable expression).

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As per Claim 10: Nielsen further discloses, "A system according to claim 1, wherein said user interface menu generator provides an image window permitting user selection of a template calculable expression from a plurality of predetermined template calculable expression and (See Figure 2, pull-down menu 275) said image prompt element incorporates a selected template calculable expression in response to user selection of said selected template calculable expression." (See Figure 2, and see page, lines 28-34, and see Figure 5).

As per Claim 11: Nielsen further discloses, "A system according to claim 1, wherein said first image window lists a plurality of selectable data items in a hierarchical tree type structure." (See Figure 2, item 265, see Figure 4, item 470, see in page 6, lines 10-15, "User may create one ore more subset [hierarchical structure] of the system library") and said plurality of selectable data items are associated with user accessible data item descriptions (See Figure 2, item 260, Figure 4, item 470).

As per Claim 12: Nielsen further discloses, "A system according to claim 1, wherein said icon for initiating storing of said resulting expression (Figure 2, item 275, and associated text in page 6, lines 28-34, that store a list of previous enter queries 'resulting expression') initiates allocation of a version identifier to said resulting expression" (See Figure 2, results form searching given in pull menu 265 that are allocated in system Library. For example: Personal Library 1, Personal Library 2 version identifier)).

As per Claim 15: Claim 15 is further limitation of Claim 14 which is covered as addressed in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) above.

Nielsen further discloses, "a calculable expression (Nielsen: Figure 2, item 270: ("Good Boy" OR "Good Girl") BUT NOT (Bad Dog)) and said expression processor processes said resultant expression to provide a calculated result value in response to said user command.

Nielsen does not disclose, "said resultant expression to provide a calculated result value in response to said user command".

Netscape discloses a full set of OPERATORS that could be processed by processors. The operators such as AND, OR, etc., (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 33, Table 9.4) including algebraic operators (Netscape: Chapter 9, page 31, Table 9.1) provide the calculated result values.

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Therefore, It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to extend the displayed set of operators operable within Applets and HTML developed for window interface shown by Nielsen into full sets of Operators shown by Netscape. The motivation is that these operators are available as the embedded and/or built-in elements in a computer operating system and/or in a programming language; users can directly enter arithmetic expression in the input text areas without using online or hand calculators, and thus the user can enhance search process, where the calculated values simply result in such arithmetic built-in operations of a computer such as add/subtract/multiplication/</>, etc.

As per Claim 18: Nielsen further discusses, *"A system according to claim 17, wherein said expression processor processes said resultant expression to determine said resultant expression is valid and wherein said system for providing a user interface display image comprises machine executable code stored on a tangible storage medium."* (See page 2, line 22, "query syntax", and see Figure 9, and further see page 4, lines 42-55, "an applet to compute the proper search syntax", "CONTENT HANDLER", see "Java Interpreter" in page 5, line 10, see "specifying the correct search syntax" in page 5, line 30, all these have means of handling *invalid expression*).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 13 and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Prior arts of record, Nielsen and Netscape, and cited prior arts of record, alone or in combination, do not explicitly disclose the limitations as recited in dependent Claim 13 that is functionality to *"said expression processor uses said version identifier in processing a latest version system supports storage and retrieval of a resultant expression"*.

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Prior arts of record, Nielsen and Netscape, and cited prior arts of record, alone or in combination, do not explicitly disclose the limitations that are functionality to identify to data records specified as *"different types of predetermined data items identify at least one of a) a patient, (b) a patient physical characteristic, (c) patient address information and (d) patient medical record information"*; and combining with the functionality to provide an image window indicating *"said associated predetermined allowable values for a corresponding predetermined data item comprise at least one of (i) an acceptable parameter and (ii) an acceptable value, associated with a data item selected by a user via said first image window"*, as recited in such manner in claim 16.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

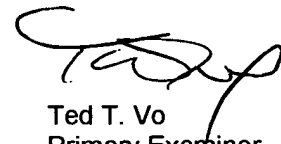
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ted T. Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-3706. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM to 5:30PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q. Dam can be reached on (571) 272-3694. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ted T. Vo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2122
January 21, 2005